

*Tax Credits boost renewable energy, help working families, amendment provides jobs access*

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Friday, Congressman Harry Teague joined a majority in the House of Representatives in support of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act which will provide significant economic relief for Southern New Mexico as part of a broader effort to save and create jobs and rebuild the economy. The package creates an estimated 7,100 jobs in the 2nd Congressional District. The legislation was passed by the House by a vote of 246 to 183.

"This bipartisan bill will create jobs, provide tax relief for 95% of working Americans, and begin the process of rebuilding our nation's economy. This is not a perfect bill and some people will think the bill falls short or maybe that it's too big, but we can't let perfection stand in the way of doing lots of good for the American people. Working families in southern New Mexico have been hit hard by the downturn in the economy, families from Hobbs to Silver City and across the country are struggling. They are wondering if their jobs are safe, or if their hours will get cut, and if they will be able to make ends meet. Today's package will begin to address the urgent needs of our nations' families and our economy." said Congressman Harry Teague.

Two bills sponsored by Congressman Harry Teague were incorporated in the package. One of the provisions extends the renewable energy production tax credit for two years, making it easier for businesses to invest in renewable energy projects. The other would make the Child Tax Credit refundable for the next two years. An estimated 144,000 children in New Mexico would benefit from the change in tax code.

"I am proud to have the legislation I crafted included in this package. Investing in a new generation energy economy and providing stimulus to hard working families will bolster the economy of, not only Southern New Mexico, but the nation as a whole" said Congressman Harry Teague.

An amendment submitted by Congressman Harry Teague was passed by the House and included by the conferees. The amendment enhances the Recovery.gov site created in the Recovery package to include information about and links to the state and local agencies that are getting the infrastructure money, and the same information about and links to the private firms that are contracted to hire the workers and do the jobs.

"What we're going to do with the Recovery.gov site is make it easier for folks looking for work to find the jobs that we're creating with this piece of legislation," said congressman Harry Teague. "It is all about changing so that the government is working for the people."

The Recovery.gov site is one of several unprecedented accountability measures built in including: providing strong oversight, a historic degree of public transparency, and including no earmarks.

The bill is expected to be voted on in the Senate this weekend it will then be sent to President Obama.

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